

## BLAME EACH OTHER

### BOTH CAPTAINS CREDIT COLLISION TO CARELESSNESS

### COLLIDED AT TOP SPEED

Monroe's Captain Declares Nantucket Came on Him in Such Speed That Collision Was Inevitable—Nantucket's Captain Says Monroe Crossed His Bow at Full Speed.

Declaring the sinking of his vessel was due to the negligence and carelessness of those in command of the steamer Nantucket, Capt. E. E. Johnson, commanding the ill-fated steamer Monroe, late Saturday fled a libel against the former vessel in the United States district court at Norfolk. He claims a million dollars' damage.

Capt. Johnson alleges that the Monroe was proceeding at half speed or less before the accident and had laid-to after hearing fog whistles. He says the Nantucket came upon him at such speed that a collision was unavoidable, although he had ordered his ship ahead at full speed to avoid the on-rushing bow of the Merchants' and Miners steamer.

Capt. Johnson's story of the collision follows: He says: "At about 1:38 o'clock approximately, ship's time, a fog signal of one blast of a whistle from a steamer was heard. It seemed to be about three points on the starboard bow. The Monroe at this time was heading N. E. one-fourth N., compass course. Whereupon the engines of the Monroe were immediately stopped and remained stopped for about a minute, when a bright light was observed, about four points on the starboard bow, but on account of the fog it was impossible to tell at what distance.

"As soon as this light was observed two whistles were blown by the Monroe and her wheel was put hard astorboard, which was the best thing under the circumstances that could be done to avoid a collision, and the engines were put full speed ahead. With the speed of the Nantucket, to avoid a collision, and the Nantucket coming on with apparently undiminished speed, struck the Monroe on her starboard side, at the forward overall gangway, just forward of the pilot house, the collision taking place in less than a minute after the Nantucket's light was first observed. A large hole was torn in the side of the Monroe, below the water line. The collision took place approximately thirty-two miles north of Cape Charles Lightship.

"The Monroe immediately began to fill, and seeing that she was in imminent danger of sinking, orders were given to arouse all the passengers and clear away the lifeboats. In the meantime, the Nantucket had swung around the stern of the Monroe, and was lying off about a quarter of a mile. The Monroe proceeded to fill rapidly, and about four minutes after the collision, was nearly on her beam ends. One of the lifeboats on the starboard side was smashed in the collision, and another was swamped while being launched. The remaining lifeboats on the starboard side were got away as quickly as possible, it being impossible, on account of the heavy list to starboard, to launch the port side lifeboats.

"Not more than ten minutes after the collision, the Monroe foundered in about fifteen fathoms of water, going down in approximately the same place at which the collision occurred. Many of the Monroe's crew and passengers were saved in her own boats, and others were picked up by boats from the Nantucket, which was standing by, and rendered all aid possible under the conditions. Nineteen passengers were lost and twenty-two of the crew were lost.

The Nantucket, which was in collision with the Monroe, docked in Baltimore Sunday. In a written statement Captain Berry said that while the Nantucket was on her usual course, fog signals of a vessel, after ward found to be the Monroe, were reported ahead. The fog was low-lying and at times clearer than at others. The fog signals of the Nantucket were sounding at regular intervals. The fog signal of the Monroe again was heard, and this time on the Nantucket's port bow. The next whistles heard from the Monroe were two blasts, which indicated that the Monroe was trying to pass the Nantucket starboard to starboard, contrary to the rule.

Capt. Berry said that in an endeavor to avoid a collision with the Monroe, the Nantucket's helm was put hard a port to keep to the right, but the Monroe proceeded at full speed and tried to cross the bow of the Nantucket. She succeeded in getting partly past the Nantucket's stem when the vessels collided, the Nantucket's stem striking the Monroe's starboard bow forward of the pilot house at right angles.

The Monroe passed under such great speed, according to Capt. Berry's report, that the stem of the Nantucket was bent sharply toward her starboard side and the Nantucket was bent sharply toward her starboard side and the Nantucket slewed around so that her port side was scraped by the Monroe's crisscrossing one of the Nantucket's port bows. The Monroe passed on out of sight. At the time of the collision the Nantucket's engines were running at full speed astern and had been running for some time previous to the collision.

"The Nantucket appeared seriously injured, but was maneuvered to aid in the work of rescue, continually using her searchlight. Wireless communication was established and several vessels offered assistance, the first to arrive being the Hamilton, which conveyed the Nantucket to Norfolk.

**Negro Kills Saw Mill Man.**  
Cary C. Goins, a saw mill man of Waveros, Ga., was shot by Will Gilbert, a negro on Tuesday. Goins was aiding officers of the law in making the arrest of Gilbert.

Fleeing Presidents of Hayti ought to keep in mind the get-away possibilities of the aeroplane.

## TAX VALUE OF PROPERTY

### VARYING ASSESSMENTS OF THE COUNTIES GIVEN

Anderson County Lands Are Highest While the Mules of Hampton Are Assessed Highest.

Anderson county lands are assessed for taxation at a higher rate, \$7.34 per acre, than those of any other South Carolina county, according to data compiled by the comptroller general for the use of the senate in its discussion of the pending bill to readjust the salaries of county auditors and treasurers. The lowest rate per acre, \$1.55 is assessed in Berkeley.

The six highest rates per acre, after Anderson, are as follows: Lee \$6.41, Spartanburg \$6.18, Chester \$6.05, Dillon \$5.91, Marlboro \$5.72, Newberry 5.65. Mules are assessed highest, \$93 each, in Hampton; lowest, \$32, in Pickens.

The following table showing the assessed valuation of land per acre in the different counties, the average value of mules, and the total taxes charged, as prepared by the comptroller general, is part of the statistical information, which will be used by the senate in its debate on the county treasurers and auditors bill:

County	Mules	Per Acre	Charged
Abbeville	\$59	\$4.19	\$117,233
Aiken	59	4.12	142,200
Anderson	59	7.34	274,159
Bamberg	53	3.76	65,008
Barnwell	54	3.61	134,210
Beaufort	80	3.47	46,899
Berkley	56	1.55	54,180
Calhoun	56	3.74	48,591
Charleston	74	5.88	358,598
Cherokee	74	5.02	117,608
Chester	66	6.03	131,097
Chesterfield	69	2.66	102,255
Clarendon	75	3.62	84,897
Colleton	65	2.15	82,167
Darlington	64	5.27	131,871
Dillon	69	5.91	105,867
Dorchester	74	1.96	71,519
Edgefield	56	4.61	96,270
Fairfield	69	3.49	88,784
Florence	64	3.99	120,352
Georgetown	37	2.02	67,584
Greenville	87	5.48	358,474
Hampton	53	5.36	147,960
Greenwood	93	2.39	63,768
Horry	76	1.70	63,975
Jasper	90	2.44	36,721
Kershaw	84	3.04	110,887
Lancaster	52	3.89	94,129
Laurens	46	5.26	162,403
Lee	61	6.41	75,045
Lexington	66	2.94	114,592
Marion	68	2.02	89,174
Marlboro	44	5.72	97,205
Newberry	64	5.65	140,463
Oconee	49	2.99	105,375
Orangeburg	54	3.60	175,324
Pickens	32	3.32	64,161
Richland	68	4.66	292,231
Saluda	57	4.73	65,176
Spartanburg	49	6.18	390,232
Sumter	66	5.51	142,781
Union	51	4.61	139,140
Williamsburg	79	2.33	38,054
York	61	5.56	216,028

### SIX COMMUTATIONS.

#### Fairfield County Convicts Have Their Sentences Shortened.

Sentences of six prisoners serving terms in the State penitentiary have been commuted by the governor to terms on the Fairfield county chain-gang.

Daniel Bird, convicted in 1912 of murder and sentenced to be electrocuted, but later commuted to life, was sent to the county chain-gang for 20 years.

Jordan Stevenson, convicted in 1910 of burglary and larceny and given 11 years, was sent to the county chain-gang for nine years.

The sentence of John Ervin, convicted in 1909 of murder, was reduced for a life term to 20 years.

The life sentence of Jesse Murphy, convicted in 1908 of murder, was reduced to 20 years.

The life sentence of Jake Moore, convicted of murder in 1912, was reduced to 20 years. Moore was to have been electrocuted last October, but his sentence was then commuted to a life term.

The life term given Sam Farrow for murder in 1901 was reduced to 20 years.

A parole has been issued by the governor to Lillian Love, who was convicted in Spartanburg, in January of last year, of running a house of ill fame and sentenced to six months or a fine of \$200.

### PUSHES HOSPITAL PLAN.

#### Congressman Johnson Works for Pelagra Sanitarium.

That a pellagra hospital at some point in South Carolina, probably at Spartanburg is now one of the possibilities of the near future as viewed at Washington in the light of recent developments. Congressman Johnson, who has been active in this matter, received a letter from W. S. Montgomery of Spartanburg, saying that, after consultation with Dr. Jeffries and other well known pellagra experts there, it had been decided that if the government would operate a hospital at Spartanburg, the Good Samaritan hospital, a building in every way suitable, would be donated for the purpose. It is stated that this building not only has plenty of room and has enough baths to supply ordinary demands, but that it is also in other ways an ideal place for the government to locate its hospital.

Mr. Johnson had nothing to say regarding the matter. He is working quietly, and it would not be at all surprising should some plan be found shortly for passing the bill he has introduced or putting it on as a "rider" to some other measure for the purposes indicated. Quietly but effectively, Mr. Johnson is at work carrying out the plan he began last summer to give South Carolina an up-to-date pellagra hospital.

### Hotel Guests Trapped.

Twenty guests in the hotel Lyric, New York, Sunday night were trapped in their rooms by a fire which started in the basement and were rescued with ladders thrown against the side of the building and across roofs.

## TELLS OF MURDER

### WOMAN SAYS HER LOVER CAST BABY INTO CREEK

### THEY TRIED TO ESCAPE

Spartanburg Mystery is Apparently Solved in the Arrest of a Young Couple—Young Mother Says She Did Not Want to Part With Babe But Man Refused to Marry Her.

Charged with murder, the alleged parents of a girl baby, whose dead body was found in a mill pond near Spartanburg Saturday, were arrested Tuesday afternoon; the woman in Spartanburg, as she was about to take a train for Charleston; the man at Chesnee, S. C., as he was preparing to leave for San Francisco. He is Clyde Caldwell Clement, twenty-three years of age, until recently a student at Wofford college fitting school. She is Miss Fleta Pendleton, aged nineteen, until recently a student in a Spartanburg business school.

Miss Pendleton was identified as the mother of the baby by Mrs. W. M. Hodges of Greenville. When Mrs. Hodges was taken to see her, Miss Pendleton is said to have burst into tears, and exclaimed, "Oh, God, why did I kill that dear little baby?"

Miss Pendleton collapsed. When she had partly regained her composure she said Clement dropped the baby Friday night from a bridge into the creek which forms the mill pond. She said she did not want to lose the baby, but that Clement told her he did not love "the d--d brat," and he would not marry her unless she would consent to his doing away with it.

Weeping piteously in the Spartanburg jail Tuesday night, Miss Pendleton begged to see the baby, and the corpse was carried to her to fondle. Miss Pendleton said she gave birth to the baby, named Virginia, at the Presbyterian hospital in Charlotte, December 6. Clement then took her to Greenville and got a room for her at the boarding house of Mrs. Hodges. In a confession made to Solicitor A. E. Hill and recorded by a stenographer, she said:

"Clyde Clement came to Greenville last Thursday and spent the night with me and we talked of marrying. Clyde said that he would tell me in the morning what he would do. Clyde said I would have to make away with the child, and I told him I did not want to, because I loved her. He then said he would not marry me with the child, but if I would get rid of her he would marry me. I was crying and pleading with him nearly all night not to get rid of the child.

"The next day he said that we would come to Spartanburg. We left Greenville, and arrived here about 8 o'clock at night, and caught a public hack; the hack had curtains on it. We drove down East Main street, until we got near the bridge. Then we got out of the hack and walked on down toward the bridge. I was carrying in the baby. Before we got to the bridge Clyde took the baby from me, and we walked on across the bridge. Just as we got across the bridge I turned my back and went up the left hand road by myself. Clyde went down. I never looked back. I don't know how he threw the child in the river. I didn't hear him hit the water, because I didn't want to hear it, as I loved it so much.

"The child was alive when Clyde took it from my arms, and when he came back to me he did not have the baby. I didn't know what he did with it. Then he and I crossed the bridge and came on back up the road together. We didn't talk about it, because I couldn't stand to hear it mentioned.

According to Mrs. Hodges, Miss Pendleton tried to pass the baby in the Salvation Army rescue home, in Greenville, but the matron refused to accept it because of its tender age.

At Miss Pendleton's request Clement was brought from his cell to see her. She reached her hands out between the bars of the cell and clasped his hands with many expressions of love and devotion. Tears streamed down her face as she chokingly told the man of her love. She begged Solicitor Hill to let Clement remain in the cell with her, but the solicitor would not consent to this. Clement never utters a word during the girl's demonstration.

Clement is the son of Robert C. Clement, a merchant at Sandy Springs, N. C. He attended Wofford college fitting school last year. Miss Pendleton is the daughter of a shoe salesman at Durham, N. C.

Clement came to Spartanburg Tuesday morning and gave Miss Pendleton \$25, telling her to leave the city at once. She was preparing to take the first train out of the city, the Carolina Special, and had sent her trunk to the station when Mayor J. F. Floyd, Chief John Hill of the police force; Solicitor Albert E. Hill and Robert E. Miller, accompanied by Mrs. Hodges, called at her boarding house and arrested her. Clement, in an automobile, was on his way to Sandy Springs when he was overtaken at Chesnee by Sheriff W. J. White and a detective and arrested.

### Aero Race Around World.

The directors of the Panama-Pacific exposition have announced an around-the-world aeroplane race. The race will start in May, 1915, and be completed at the same place in 90 days. The first prize will be \$100,000.

### Eighteen Loose Lives.

Capt. Lorenz, the first officer, and 17 of the crew of the German bark Hera, Sunday lost their lives when the vessel struck a rock near Falmouth, Eng.

### Steamship Rams Tug.

A southbound Mallory line steamer hit a tug in New York harbor Sunday, sinking the tug immediately. Two decks were drowned.

### Shot Wife and Neighbor.

Harry W. Goss of Erie, Pa., Sunday shot and seriously wounded his wife, killed Mrs. Fred Field, a neighbor, and then killed himself.

## SWAM TWO HOURS IN SEA

### MAN SUPPORTS HIS WIFE WHILE WAITING ON HELP.

Connecticut Man Tells of the Awful Moments That Followed the Sinking of the Monroe.

Survivors of the disaster to the steamship Monroe reached New York over the Pennsylvania railroad from Norfolk. Among them was Thomas Harrington, of Bridgeport, Conn., accompanying the body of his wife, who died after being taken aboard the Nantucket.

It was Harrington who swam in the cold water supporting his wife by holding her hair in his teeth. "I am too weak to talk," he said. "All that I know is that my wife is dead." Harrington's father, Joseph, met him. "Tell what happened, Tom," said the father. "We all want to know and it will get it off your mind."

Then in a dull monotone the young man told his story. He and his wife had a stateroom on the side where the Monroe was rammed. When the shock came, he said, "we got up and dressed and wasted time that might have saved the poor girl's life."

By the time they reached the main saloon the ship had keeled so that the side wall for Harrington, "and there was a lurch," said Harrington, "and Margaret was thrown twenty feet and lodged under the bench built along the sides. I slid and scrambled all over her. When I took hold of her she screamed and pointed to her poor right arm. It was broken and hanging limp. 'Don't touch me,' she screamed. 'Let me die.' I told her she would have to come and she would feel better about it later. Oh, God she was right and I didn't know it. But I got her loose. Then the ship sagged back again and there was a rush of water that washed us out to the deck. I managed to get on our outer clothes. Then we let go and the ship went away from under us."

Harrington told how he tried to swim holding his wife by the broken arm, but this pained her so that finally he twisted her long hair into a rope close to her head, and taking it in his teeth, floated on his back, keeping the woman's head on his chest.

One lifeboat passed within 10 feet, he said, and ignored their calls for help. After nearly two hours another boat came. "I held Margaret up to them," continued Harrington, "and a sailor said:

"'Let her go. She is dead.'"  
"She is not dead," I said to him; "and you take her aboard if you don't want to go to hell with murder on your soul!"

"So they took her in. She opened her eyes and smiled at me.

"When they got me aboard the ship they put her in one state room and left her and put me in another. I believe that if a doctor had been with her right away with stimulants she might be alive now. But they were all mixed up, and when I found where she was lying all alone she was dead."

### WHAT THE RECORD SHOWS.

#### Massachusetts Statesmen Antedates Southern Secessionists.

The people of the New England States were the most bitter of all the enemies of the South during and right after the war. They pretended to look upon secession as the most heinous of all crimes, forgetting that the first secessionists of this country were New Englanders. This has recently been brought out by Rev. Thos. B. Gregory, of New York, who is writing some very interesting historical incidents of the past. He points out that one hundred and three years ago, Josiah Quincy, of Massachusetts, made the speech in congress that anticipated Jefferson Davis and Robert Toombs by nearly two generations. The question before congress was that of the admission of Louisiana into the union. Mr. Quincy said:

"Mr. Speaker, I address you with an anxiety and distress of mind with me wholly unprecedented. To me it appears that this measure would justify a revolution in this country. I am compelled to declare it as my deliberate opinion that, if this bill passes, the bonds of the Union are virtually dissolved; that the states which compose it are free from their moral obligations; and that, as it will be the right of all, so it will be the duty of some, to prepare definitely for a separation—amicably if they can, violently if they must."

Here, Mr. Gregory asserts, is the idea that Mr. Davis and Mr. Toombs advanced in 1861. He contends that even William L. Yancey never went further in the advocacy of secession in 1850 than did Mr. Quincy in 1811. Quincy's speech concluded as follows:

"Sir, I confess it, the first public love of my heart is the commonwealth of Massachusetts. There is my forefathers, there are the tombs of my ancestors. My love of this Union grows out of this attachment to my native soil, and is rooted in it. I cherish it (the Union), because it affords the best external hope of her (Massachusetts) peace, prosperity and independence."

Mr. Gregory writes: "Strange is history, and very strange are many of its dispensations. Its consistency is wonderfully like the chameleon, and its judgments, like those of the Almighty, are 'past finding out.' Flitting from Josiah Quincy, of Massachusetts, to Jefferson Davis of Georgia, William L. Yancey of Alabama, et al., we are reminded of the words of Scripture: 'Think ye, that the eighth upon which the tower in Siloam fell, and killed, were offenders above all the men that dwell in Jerusalem?'"

### Horse Killed in Accident.

While driving an unbroken mule Tuesday in Sumter J. D. Blanding met a negro driving a horse. The mule plunging around hit the horse, striking him so that the shaft penetrated his breast, killing him instantly.

## TAX ON FUTURES

### TILLMAN WANTS ONE PER CENT IMPOST ON THEM

### BILL UP TO THE SENATE

Senator Introduces Bill Providing a Tax on Agricultural Products Sold for Future Delivery—Measure is Designed to Prevent Speculation in Agricultural Commodities.

Senator Tillman Monday introduced the following bill to provide a revenue tax on agricultural products, where sold for future delivery:

"Section 1. All contracts for the sale and delivery of unmanufactured agricultural products of the United States, where the amount contracted for shall be \$5,000 or more, and the date of such delivery be fixed at 30 days or more distant, shall be evidenced by a written agreement signed by the principals or their agents, and all contracts not so reduced by writing are declared to be in violation of public policy and subject to the penalties hereinafter set forth.

"Sec. 2. The party who shall sell and contract for future delivery agricultural products as provided in the foregoing section shall affix to the written contract of sale revenue stamps to be purchased from the internal revenue collector of the United States, which stamps shall evidence the payment to the United States of an amount equal to 1 per centum of the value of the products contracted for, the said value to be computed upon the basis of the price at which the purchaser has agreed in good faith to receive the said products. Upon the delivery of the contract to the purchaser the vendor shall cancel said stamps by writing his initials in ink across same.

"Sec. 3. No assignment of contracts herein provided for shall be valid unless made in writing by the parties thereto or their duly authorized agent, or agents, assignee or assignees before the products contracted for shall have been delivered: Provided further, That no assignment of a contract shall be valid unless the principals thereto or their agent or agents, assignee or assignees, shall affix and cancel in the manner prescribed in the preceding section, revenue stamps which shall evidence the payment to the United States of a tax of 1-2 of 1 per cent. of the value of said products computed on the same basis as set forth in the section 2 of this act.

"Sec. 4. Any person, firm, or corporation making or assigning a contract for the future delivery of agricultural products, where the gross value of such products amounts to \$5,000 or more, and the date of such delivery is 30 days or more distant, and shall neglect to affix and cancel revenue stamps as herein provided, shall upon conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction pay a fine of not less than \$200 or be imprisoned not less than 60 days for each offense or both fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court.

"Sec. 5. Contracts provided hereunder may be canceled by mutual agreement of the parties thereto, and the evidence of such cancellation shall be made in writing across the face of the contract and signed by the vendor and vendee, their assignee or assignees, agent or agents. At the time of such cancellation, there shall be affixed revenue stamps evidencing the payment to the United States of a tax of 1-2 of 1 per cent. as provided in the case of an assignment of said contract.

"Sec. 6. Wherever agricultural products contracted for under the provisions of this act are made deliverable in the State in which such products were grown, or in any other State which produced according to the last census 10 per centum of the product contracted for, then the tax payable on such contract shall be 1-20 of the amount hereinbefore fixed for the original contract and assignment or assignments thereof.

"Sec. 7. For the purpose of this act, lint cotton in bales, wheat, corn, oats, rye and other grains in their usual commercial packages shall be deemed unmanufactured agricultural products, but flour, butter, lard and dressed meats shall be deemed manufactured products and not subject to the provisions of this act.

"It shall be the duty of secretary of agriculture to prepare and promulgate a list of unmanufactured products within the intent and meaning of this act: Provided, however, That no unmanufactured agricultural product or contract therefore, shall be taxable under the provisions of this act unless the total value of such product in the United States as shown by the latest census report shall exceed \$10,000,000 in value.

"The secretary of agriculture is further authorized and directed to construe said census reports and promulgate necessary rules which shall be binding as a declaration of the intent and purposes of this act, until legally revised or changed.

"Sec. 8. Wherever any State has established by law a system of grading, inspection and warehousing of agricultural products and the department of agriculture has heretofore or does hereafter establish official standards and grades, to determine the quality or value of such agricultural products, when the secretary of agriculture is authorized and directed upon the application of said State to send such expert or experts as may be necessary to the State, for the purpose of establishing the grade and quality of the agricultural product, where the value of such product in the United States according to the latest census report exceeds the gross sum of \$10,000,000.

"Sec. 9. The secretary of agriculture is hereby empowered to promulgate the rules and regulations under which his department is prepared to co-operate with any State which may undertake by law to classify, grade or otherwise determine the quality of unmanufactured agricultural products as set forth in this act.

"Sec. 10. All acts and part of acts inconsistent with this act, be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Old newspapers for sale.

## VILLA HAD HIM EXECUTED

### ORDERED THE DEATH OF FELIX DIAZ'S ENEMY.

Reports Say That Envoys Was Commissioned by Diaz to Ask Villa to Renounce General Carranza.

Francisco I. Guzman, who figured prominently in the revolt against President Madero in Mexico City a year ago, was executed Monday in the front yard of a house occupied by Gen. Francisco Villa at Juarez, Mexico. Guzman had just come from Havana, where, it was charged he had been given a commission by Felix Diaz to induce Gen. Villa to renounce Gen. Carranza and throw the strength of the revolution to Diaz.

As soon as he heard of the proposal Gen. Villa gave Guzman a conference, and after making sure of the nature of the visit, ordered the messenger shot. Within a few minutes after Villa's arrival Guzman was led out of Villa's room, stood up before an adobe wall, and with his hands tied and eyes blindfolded was executed. The shooting was done by a rebel officer in charge of the railroad who happened to be present when the execution was ordered.

It was at first reported that Bonales Sandoval, an attorney of Mexico City was the victim, but Sandoval, who was reported to be on a similar mission for Diaz took refuge in the United States several days ago. Guzman formerly was a private secretary to Dr. Emilio Vasquez Gomez. He was known as one of the promoters of the Orozco revolution against Madero and later joined with Huerta in the conspiracy against the late President.

An effort was made at first to conceal Guzman's summary execution, but inquiry as to a pool of blood in Villa's yard revealed the fact, and later rebel leaders admitted Guzman had been buried a few hours after he had been seen alive on the street. The execution of those upon whom the rebels look as political enemies is said to be in line with a recent order from Gen. Carranza that all those who took an active part in the overthrow of Madero must be killed.

With his army of 12,000 rebels already advanced to points north of Torreon, and awaiting word to open the attack on the Federal garrison in that city, Gen. Villa planned to leave immediately for Chihuahua, from whence after a stay of several days, he will march south to direct the opening of the battle. A courier who arrived from Torreon said the rebel advance guards had already surrounded the city, but that Gen. Regulo Velasco's Federal soldiers had not opened fire.

The Federal soldiers in Torreon, it was said, were being kept in ignorance of recent rebel victories, and to sustain their courage they were told that Gen. Mercado won a signal victory at Ojinaga. Gen. Marcela Caraveo, one of the volunteer Federal generals, who escaped from Ojinaga, has arrived in Torreon, and was given a triumphant reception because he informed the soldiers the rebels had been defeated at Ojinaga.

Mexican Federal sympathizers protested to the United States army officers in El Paso that Raul Madero, brother of the late President and an officer on Villa's staff, was permitted to go to the American side. Madero has been seen daily in the hotels and at social affairs on the American side. The Mexicans complained that this was a violation of the neutrality laws that was accorded Gen. Mercado and other Federal officers who are held prisoners at Fort Bliss because they crossed the river. It was said that a protest would be made to Washington.